

Embassy in Japan, the Commons of Columbus in Columbus, Indiana, the New York World Financial Center and Winter Garden, the More and Stiles Colleges at Yale University, the International Finance Center under construction in Hong Kong, and the renovation of the New York City Museum of Modern Art.

New Haven has been fortunate to have Cesar Pelli call it home since 1977, when he became the Dean of the Yale University School of Architecture. It is fitting that tonight in New Haven, Mr. Pelli is being honored at Casa Otonal, the residential community for the elderly whose inner city campus of workshops, residences, and on-site services and intergenerational programs, was designed by Cesar Pelli twenty-two years ago. Pelli's campus fosters a sense of community among residents and the surrounding inner city neighborhood, reaffirming Casa Otonal's mission and enhancing its success. It is this commitment to city landscape and life which has earned Mr. Pelli more than 100 awards for design excellence, including the American Institute of Architects 1995 Gold Medal for a lifetime of distinguished achievement and outstanding contributions.

Cesar Pelli, we thank you for your commitment and contribution to our cities and to urban life. It is my great honor and privilege to join with the residents and staff of Casa Otonal, and with your family and friends, to pay tribute to your remarkable achievements.

DRUG ABUSE IN RURAL INDIANA

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Tuesday, September 15, 1998 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

DRUG ABUSE IN RURAL INDIANA

Last month I held a series of meetings around the Ninth Congressional District to discuss drug abuse in Southern Indiana. These meetings were held in followup to a recent report, Rural Indiana Profile, I commissioned describing the drug abuse problem in rural Indiana, and were aimed at giving local, state, and federal officials as well as community leaders an opportunity to visit about the scope of the drug challenges in our communities and about efforts to combat them. What follows is a summary of the major findings of those meetings.

Scope of problem: Community leaders agreed that drug abuse ranks as one of the toughest challenges they now confront. They are pleased that much good work is being done by many persons and groups to rid our communities of drug abuse, but they also agree that much more needs to be done. Most people know someone who has a drug abuse problem or has been the victim of a crime related to drugs. Among youth, rates of use for alcohol, tobacco and most other drugs are higher in rural Indiana than elsewhere in the state and the nation.

Rural Indiana pays a large price for drug abuse. According to recent statistics, 80-90% of local criminal cases in southern Indiana are drug-related, and drug-related illnesses and treatment account for nearly one-fourth of health care costs.

Response to problem: Community leaders recognize that drug abuse is a complex problem requiring a multifaceted response.

Education and Prevention: Attendees at the meetings all stressed that leaders must say with one voice that there will be zero tolerance for drug abuse in our communities. To reach youth on the harms of drug abuse, we must send this message of zero tolerance repeatedly to our young people, first at the earliest ages and then through grade school and high school. Many communities have drug awareness programs in place in their schools, but local leaders agreed that more could be done, at all levels of government, to expand anti-drug education and prevention efforts.

Joint Response: The response to the drug problem must include more than just law enforcement and the criminal justice system if it is to be successful. It must also include representatives from our schools, prevention centers, treatment facilities, employers, clergy, community organizations, government officials and the media.

Local Coordinating Councils: Every county in Indiana has already established Local Coordinating Councils (LCCs). These councils are intended to coordinate anti-drug efforts in our communities, and their responsibilities include: identifying community drug programs; coordinating community initiatives; designing comprehensive, collaborative community strategies; and monitoring anti-drug activities at the local level. The LCCs have not been around very long, and those who attended the meetings agreed that LCCs are a good idea which require more nurturing, support, and funding. At the county level, there is funding available through fees levied on alcohol and other drug related offenders—but in many rural counties, where the number of drug offenses is relatively small, funding is limited. Community leaders believe that additional funding might come from large employers, civic organizations, grants, and joint LCC efforts.

Treatment: The lack of drug treatment facilities is a concern in every county in southern Indiana. Access to outpatient facilities are generally limited, while access to in-patient, long-term treatment is almost non-existent. Long-term treatment, while often effective, is expensive, and communities must rely on scarce federal dollars for such treatment efforts. LCCs and other community leaders will most likely have to develop local and private funding sources as well as collaborate with neighboring counties in order to expand treatment opportunities for their residents.

Criminal Reporting System: Local law enforcement and prosecutors stress the importance of establishing in Indiana an electronic reporting system, which would provide an easily accessible record of criminal offenders. Indiana is now in the process of developing such a system. Local leaders note that without such a system, it is difficult to identify and clean up "hot spots" where there is a lot of drug activity, build meaningful partnerships among jurisdictions, or obtain funding for particular initiatives.

Drug Courts: Most local courts in Indiana that routinely deal with alcohol and drug offenses have created various evaluation and treatment programs through their probation departments. There have been few drug courts established, however, to deal specifically with the growing docket of drug abuse cases. Many jurisdictions around the country are turning to drug courts, which generally place non-violent drug abusing offenders into intensive court-supervised treatment instead of prison. The City of Lawrenceburg is attempting to open a juvenile drug court for Dearborn and Ohio counties. This will be the first rural drug court in Indiana, and will serve an estimated 50 to 60 juveniles in the first year of operation.

Conclusion: Our communities in Southern Indiana are diverse, but they face similar

challenges in fighting drug abuse and many are adopting similar strategies in dealing with the problem. Short-term goals include: better coordination through the Local Coordinating Councils, better evaluations of programs and access to evaluations, more youth initiatives, and more public-private initiatives. Long-term goals include: inpatient facilities within reasonable driving distance for residents, development of multi-jurisdictional drug courts, and expanded education programs for children and youth.

Community leaders also recognize that schools, the court system, and other local institutions can only do so much in combating drug use in southern Indiana. Fighting drugs, they say, really starts at home. Parents must set the example of drug-free living if children are expected to accept a similar lifestyle, and must talk to their children about the dangers of drug use. We must all work hand-in-hand, from the home to the schools to the courthouses, if we are to achieve drug-free communities in Indiana.

Rural Indiana Profile is available on the Internet at the following address: www.drugs.indiana.edu/publications.

A TRIBUTE TO CHIEF PHILLIP MARTIN

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 1998

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man whose leadership and hard work has made the Mississippi band of Choctaw Indians a success story—that man is Chief Phillip Martin.

Chief Martin has served the tribe for over 40 years—during that time he has strived to improve the health, wealth and welfare of the tribe by promoting self responsibility, self reliance and self governance. His mantra has been "Choctaw self determination."

Rather than rely on the Federal Government to address their needs, Chief Martin began to instill the values of self reliance in his tribal members and educate American businesses and industries about the economic opportunities available to them on tribal lands.

As the Democratically elected leader of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, he has pursued a "dual track" to ensure that the tribe he leaves behind will be better than the one he was born into.

First, Chief Martin has made enormous investments ensuring educational opportunities for the children of the tribe—including state of the art classrooms and scholarships for college-bound students.

Next, he cultivated a business-friendly environment on tribal lands and developed more than a dozen commercial enterprises. These businesses now provide over 6,000 jobs to tribal members and their neighbors in the surrounding area—making the Choctaws the fifth largest employer in Mississippi and virtually eradicating unemployment among the Mississippi Choctaws.

By believing in the abilities of the tribe and engaging businesses in the local economy, Chief Martin has proved that "Choctaw self determination" has worked.